

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6673

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PINR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGE OF POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS OVER THE "NATO-WIDE"
NETWORK

REF: CM(71)1

1. WASHINGTON EFFORTS TO INCREASE DISSEMINATION OF POLITICAL
ASSESSMENTS VIA USE OF "NATO-WIDE" NETWORK AND THEREBY ENCOURAGE
ALLIED RECIPROCATATION APPEAR FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT TO BE BEARING
FIRST FRUITS. MISSION HAS NOTED INCREASED FLOW OF ASSESSMENTS IN
RECENT WEEKS PARTICULARLY FROM OTTAWA, LONDON AND ROME. WE ARE
ALSO PLEASED TO NOTE THAT A FEW OF THESE ASSESSMENTS RELATE TO
MATTERS
OF COMMON CONCERN OCCURRING IN AREAS OF THE WORLD BEYOND THE
TRADITIONAL
ALLIED EAST-WEST FOCUS.

2. AT THE MEETING OF THE NATO POLITICAL COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER 26,
POLADS DISCUSSED THE ADVANTAGES OF AN INCREASED EXCHANGE OF
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INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS AMONG THE ALLIES, PROCEDURES THAT
MIGHT FACILITATE SUCH AN INCREASE, AND THE VALUE OF USING THE
"NATO-WIDE" NETWORK FOR THIS EXCHANGE. A NUMBER OF POLADS
WERE UNAWARE THAT "NATO-WIDE" COULD BE ACCESSED BY DELEGATIONS

AT NATO HEADQUARTERS AS EASILY AS BY MODS AND MFA'S IN CAPITALS. POLADS REPRESENTING COUNTRIES WHOSE NATIVE LANGUAGE IS NEITHER ENGLISH NOR FRENCH POINTED TO DIFFICULTIES THEY SOMETIMES ENCOUNTER DUE TO LACK OF TRANSLATION FACILITIES IN BOTH CAPITALS AND NATO HEADQUARTERS, BUT COMMITTEE AGREED THAT SYSTEM COULD BE EMPLOYED TO MUCH GREATER EXTENT THAN IT IS AT PRESENT.

3. POLADS AGREED TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES ONCE AGAIN WITH THE CONTENTS OF CM(71)1 AND TO SCHEDULE A MEETING IN THE NEAR FUTURE WITH EXPERTS FROM THE NATO SITUATION CENTER.

4. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO FOSTER THIS ENCOURAGING TREND. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT CONTINUED GOOD EXAMPLE OF REGULAR WASHINGTON INTELLIGENCE INPUTS, PARTICULARLY OF CONCISE AND TIMELY POLITICAL ASSESSMENTS, WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED ALLIED RECIPROCATION. MISSION INTENDS TO USE "NATO-WIDE" IN NEAR FUTURE AS OCCASION PRESENTS TO DISSEMINATE ASSESSMENTS WE ARE OTHERWISE CLEARED TO DRAW UPON IN POLADS. IN THIS MANNER, WE BELIEVE SOME OF TECHNICAL NOTETAKING AND REPORTING ASSOCIATED WITH PRESENT POLADS MEETINGS CAN BE REDUCED AND MORE TIME DEVOTED TO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. MCAULIFFE

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USNMR SHAPE
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